

# HOW TO SAVE LOVE WITH PESSIMISM



## BEFORE WATCHING

Answer the questions:

- Are you an optimist or a pessimist? Do you see the glass half full or half empty?
- Who do you think is generally better off: optimists or pessimists?

## Questions about the video:

1. According to the video, what are we usually pessimistic about and what are we usually optimistic about?
2. What is, in principle, a perfect human being like?
3. What kind of problems do we encounter in a relationship after we've been together for some time?
4. How do we keep searching for a perfect partner? Are we likely to succeed?
5. Can we expect people to be perfect? Why is being optimistic about our partner a negative feature?
6. What is the solution?
7. How can being pessimistic help us in relationships?
8. What is the main feature of a well-suited partner?

## After-watching questions:

1. Why do people usually look for a perfect partner?
2. Do you know anybody who has met their life partner online or on a speed date?
3. Do you agree that it's important to tolerate each other's imperfections?
4. Is it possible to be perfect? (or at least close to perfect)
5. Do you like the metaphors used in the video?
  - a. jigsaw
  - b. angels
  - c. funeral
6. What can you make of this quote? Do you find it relevant to the topic of pessimism in a relationship?



## VOCABULARY BOOSTER

Watch the video with subtitles and find the following parts. In each part, one word has been substituted with a synonym. Try to identify these parts and write down the original words.

**Example:** There is one area where many of us **keep** a curious sense of optimism.

**retain**

1. ...a being uniquely matching our temperaments, tastes and aspirations
2. So many people seem nice at first, but then the problems appear.
3. They have terrible taste in music.
4. Their conversation after a long day at work is not good enough.
5. We must be very romantic to try to find the Right Person.
6. Eventually, the deep secret to love is that there is no right person.
7. It's the insistence on people being right that causes rage and intolerance.
8. We need an important and rarely mentioned quality.
9. We have to go to a funeral first.
10. Have proper human relationships that will last and flourish.

### Complete and answer the questions:

1. What's the last social event you a\_\_\_\_\_?
2. Which features and skills do you think make you well s\_\_\_\_\_ to do your job?
3. How do you react when unexpected problems start to e\_\_\_\_\_? Do you keep it cool or do you tend to panic?
4. Is there any music genre that you find a\_\_\_\_\_?
5. When did you last put great e\_\_\_\_\_ into achieving something?
6. Why is it sometimes not advisable to get to the r\_\_\_\_\_ of the problem?
7. A healthy dose of pessimism is what helps relationship to e\_\_\_\_\_. Which other factors could be names here?
8. Give an example of something that leaves a lot to be d\_\_\_\_\_ but you hope it to get better?
9. Give an example of a situation that started off badly, but in the e\_\_\_\_\_ took a positive turn?
10. What do you think are v\_\_\_\_\_ characteristics of a good foreign language student?